

Mike Faust, Director Douglas A. Ducey, Governor

Preliminary Report Fatality 04/22/2020
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1. Victim: Jeremiah Bonner Jr. 2-month-old male

2. Date of notification to DCS: 5/24/19

3. Date of fatality: 5/25/19

4. Date of determination that the fatality was the result of abuse or neglect*: 4/13/20

5. County and general location of the residence of the victim: Maricopa County - Phoenix, AZ

6. Alleged perpetrator(s) name, age and city, town or general location:

Jeremiah Bonner Sr. - age 27 - Phoenix, AZ

7. Circumstances of the fatality that indicate it was the result of abuse or neglect:

On May 24, 2019, the Department of Child Safety received a report regarding 2-month-old Jeremiah Bonner Jr. who was found unresponsive at home. He was transported to the hospital and later pronounced deceased. The baby had been in the care of his father and sleeping on an inflatable mattress when he was found. An autopsy was completed by the Maricopa County Medical Examiner on May 26, 2019. The autopsy report was finalized on November 21, 2019 with the cause of death determined to be complications of asphyxia in the setting of an unsafe sleep environment. The manner of death was ruled as an accident. The Department substantiated the allegation of neglect to the baby by the father, Jeremiah Bonner Sr.

8. Whether DCS has received any reports or past cases, of child abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child or the current alleged perpetrator(s)**:

DCS has received no prior reports involving the baby and/or his father, Jeremiah Bonner Sr.

9. Actions taken by DCS in response to the fatality:

A joint investigation was conducted with the Phoenix Police Department.

10. Actions taken regarding the child and/or other children in the home:

Following the incident, the other children in the home were temporarily removed. They were later assessed as safe in the care of the parents and returned home.

11. Whether the agency is or intends to provide direct services or service referrals to the family:

The Department provided services to the family.

^{*}The determination that a fatality or near fatality is the result of abuse, abandonment or neglect is based one or more of the following criteria: (1) The perpetrator(s) arrest related to the incident, (2) Substantiated finding(s) linking the alleged perpetrator(s) action(s) to the fatality or near fatality and/or (3) Results of the Medical Examiner's report.

^{**} Information released after July 3, 2015 provides reports, or any current or past cases, of abuse, abandonment or neglect involving the child or the alleged perpetrator pursuant to A.R.S. § 8-807.01(A)(1)(e).



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Posted information may be updated as new information becomes available.